

The Problem Of Familiarity (Mark 6:1-6)

- I. We Should Be Warned By Familiarity's Refusing (Vs. 2-4)
 - A. Familiarity Refuses Wisdom Because Of Work. (Vs. 2)
 - B. Familiarity Refuses Pronouncements Because Of Pedigree (Vs. 3-4)
- II. We Should Be Warned By Familiarity's Reduction (Vs. 5-6a)
 - A. Familiarity Reduces The Miraculous (Vs 5)
 - B. Familiarity Reduces The Righteous (Vs. 6a)
- III. We Should Be Warned By Familiarity's Responsibility (Vs. 6b)
 - A. They Were Responsible For Their Reaction (Vs. 6b)
 - B. They Were Responsible For Their Redemption (Vs. 6b)

The Problem of Familiarity (Mark 6:1-6)

In an old "I Love Lucy" episode for some reason Fred and Ethel Mertz had to live with Ricky and Lucy for what was suppose to be a short time. By the end of the show, what started out like a great idea was now putting Lucy and Ethel at each others throat and Ricky and Fred were about to come to blows. Thus proving the old well-known maxim by Publilius the Syrian also lived in 2 BC: "Familiarity breeds contempt." Its so true. We have failed this true concerning our relatives, our friends and our co-workers. Close even. Even more dangerous than being at ease around a lion is being at ease, talking lightly or becoming too familiar with the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. We especially that fill this building Sun men, might, we might need to give Sermons heed to the warning of Tonights message. Every Person (old, young, man, woman, child) should take heed to their treating familiar the things of God and the things of Christ because of ³ warnings.

I. Familiarity's Refusing

- We live in and around the scenic city where others have driven 1000's of miles to see attractions that we drive by every day. Computer are hand

I refuse then because familiar. Here Jesus is

A. Refuses Wisdom Because of Work ^{V52}

Notice where Jesus was preaching; in the Synagogue. Jesus had been preaching to the crowds that came to him in public. But that doesn't seem to be the case at here. Capharnaum? At Synagogue they were "astounded" they were flabbergasted. Couldn't believe. This is the unlearned carpenter that has worked right down the road all these years. Where did he get his stuff? He's a nobody. He hasn't been trained, learned. Where's he getting all this? He's no better than me he's a carpenter. ³ Danger I heard that.

B. Refuses Pronouncement because of pedigree ^{V53}

They refused Him because of not only what he did but who he was. ^{V53} Mary's son. This is intended as a slander. Usually a man was referred to as son of Father. Mary is referring to and questioning the virgin birth account. Look here's all his brothers and sisters. He's not of some special line or of noble pedigree. He's just like them. ^{V54} Even "his own house" didn't believe. Here is the heart attack serious application. Christmas - little Christ. We sure don't act like it when the

II. Familiarity's Reduction ^{V55}

refusal and writing off of the Messiah in their midst was costly. That which they had heard of Jesus doing in other

- 1) ...Aesop even wrote a fable to illustrate it. In Aesop's fable, a fox had never before seen a lion, and when he first met the king of the beasts, the fox was nearly frightened to death. At their second meeting, the fox was not frightened quite as much; and the third time he met the lion, the fox went up and chatted with him! "And so it is," Aesop concluded, "that familiarity makes even the most frightening things seem quite harmless."
- 2) Jesus is making his way back to his home town. Not for a casual visit to catch up with friends and family but as a teacher a rabbi with some public statement to be heard. We know this be verse 1. He came with his disciples. All rabbi's of that time kept a following of a handful of disciples with them as they traveled and taught. But no sooner than he began to speak he was refused and rejected. Notice first they...
- 3) Danger: I heard all that Sunday School stuff before. I know all the stories. I know what you're suppose to believe and not believe. Heaven Hell cross tomb. Do not take the eternal truths of God for granted and belittle them with familiarity.
- 4) ...when the world looks at these little Christ's then they think that they must be what the Big Christ is like, they are making a grave and grossly false comparison. Don't sum up the claims of Christ concerning the church by those that may haunt it's premises, but not hold it's professions. Because of this, they were offended. They stumbled. They could not go any further. That leads me to the next point We should be warned of Familiarity because of ...

1) ...Right there in their midst, but no familiarity's

reduction!!!...As a fox had never before seen a lion, the fox was nearly first met the king of the beasts. At their second meeting, the fox was frightened to death. At their third meeting, the fox was not frightened quite as much; and the third time he met the lion, the fox went up and chatted with him. "And so it is," Aesop concluded, "that familiarity makes even the most frightening things seem quite harmless."

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2) ...he's sat on for 20 years than the man that has sat on a bar stool for 35 years! Familiarity reduces a man's chances from getting into the kingdom of God.

cities, could have happened right in their midst

A. Reduces The Miraculous - vs 5

No mighty work because of their unbelief. The mighty works that Christ performed were not to inspire belief but were in response to belief and faith. Faith healers and charismatic wonder workers say miracles bring faith. No! miracles are a response to faith. The latter part of verse #5 indicates Jesus Himself had to seek out a few sick folk to heal. If we insist to come in this place out of routine and constraint we will not see the miracle. But if we would seek for reach for long for miracles ^{He will respond!}

B. Reduces The Righteous - vs 6a

Twice in the bible you find Jesus marvelling. In Luke 7:9, Jesus marvelled at the great faith of the Roman Centurion. Here oppositely, He marvelled at the Lack of Faith. Unbelief! Where does the Righteous of God which is the essence of Salvation come from? Faith! Belief! Jesus came to his home town to find a whole bunch of lost people that refused to be saved people. That's why it is harder to see a man saved off of the church pew than his savior for

III. Familiarity's Responsibility - 6b

These home town folks must take responsibility for their flippant apathetic response to Jesus.

A. Responsible for Their Reaction - 6b
And he went... Jesus is a gentle man he will not force himself on anyone. Just like the prodigal's father: He will give you what you want. Johnny Campbell preaches a message. They get what they wanted but they lost what they had. Here they had harbored in their midst for 30 years the blessed son of God. The first time he returned to them was in Lk 4 they almost threw him over a cliff. And now graciously a second time he comes. They refuse ^{he} walks away.

B. Responsible for Their Redemption -
Because of their reaction, they were now responsible for their redemption. This is the last recorded visit of Christ to his home town never to return. Can you imagine Mary & Joseph's next door neighbor. He watched Jesus grow up as a child. Watched as he became a man worked in the shop. Jesus comes for this last time making bold claims. Neighbor Nahn I know you! There nothing to the Christianity stuff. Jesus moves on never to return. He is

IV. Closing - I have heard of many an electrician who after years of experience become careless and slipshod about their work that ended up dead because of familiarity. Luke 12:5

1) ...walks away. Service after service, time and again. He has come to you beckoning you to repent and receive Him as your Saviour. Will you reject him again? You will be held responsible for your reaction to his inviting.

2) He is now responsible for his own redemption and he cannot redeem himself. Romans 2:5-6 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

3) Luke 12:5 ...Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.